



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Stefan Hack et al.
Serial No.: 09/987,356
Filed: November 14, 2001
For: VALUE CHAIN OPTIMIZATION SYSTEM AND METHOD
Examiner: Sterrett, Jonathan G.
Art Unit: 3623

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

In response to the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due, mailed December 1, 2006, the following is submitted herewith for filing in the above-referenced application: Part B of Form PTOL-85 Fee(s) Transmittal (1 page in duplicate); Drawing Replacement Sheet for FIG. 8; Check in the amount of \$1,730.00 for the issue fee (\$1400.00), publication fee (\$300.00) and fee for ten (10) copies of patent (\$30.00); and Return Postcard.

The applicant recognizes that in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 1302.14, the examiner's reasons for allowance need not set forth all of the details as to why the claims are allowed. In the above-referenced application, the applicant does not concede that the examiner's stated reasons for allowance are the only reasons for which the claims are allowable. In particular, the applicant does not concede that all of the identified limitations are necessary to distinguish the prior art of record or to satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. In addition, the dependent claims are allowable on their own merits, and are allowable on the basis of a sub-combination of the recited features of the dependent claims and their respective base claims.

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February 27, 2007

Date of Deposit

These fees are due on or before March 1, 2007. Accordingly, this submission is timely filed. Although no other fees are believed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or to credit any overpayment to Account No. 50-0311, Ref. No. 34874-268CON. An extra copy of Part B of Form PTOL-85 is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,



Carl A. Kukkonen, III
Reg. No. 42,773

Date: February 27, 2007

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.
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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified patent application are the following documents:

1. Response to Notice of Allowance Dated December 1, 2006 (2 pages);
2. Part B Issue Fee Transmittal, Form PTOL-85 (1 Page) in duplicate;
3. Check in the amount of \$1,730.00 for payment of Issue and Publication Fees and ten copies of patent;
4. Replacement Sheet for FIG 8; and
5. Return Postcard.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

Express Mail Label No. EV 979523638 US

February 27, 2007
Date of Deposit

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due to the undersigned's account, Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Ref. No. 34874-268CON.

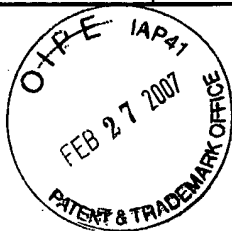
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Carl A. Kukkonen, III", written over a horizontal line.

Carl A. Kukkonen, III
Reg. No. 42,773

Date: February 27, 2007

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.
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Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to:

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Teri Barnett

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

858-320-3000

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Transmittal Letter (2 pages); Response to Notice of Allowance (2 pages); Part B of Issue Fee Transmittal (1 page) in duplicate; Check in the amount of \$1730.00; Drawing Replacement Sheet for FIG. 8 (1 sheet). and return receipt postcard

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.8. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.8 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.